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Note by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the Security Council the first quarterly report of the Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC), which is submitted in accordance with paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999) of 17 December 1999 (see annex).

As reflected in the body of the report, UNMOVIC has made a good start under the leadership of its very capable and experienced new Executive Chairman, Dr. Hans Blix. In order for UNMOVIC to become operational, it is essential for Iraq to start cooperating with the Commission.

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Annex

First quarterly report of the Executive Chairman of the United Nations Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission under paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999)

Introduction

1. The present report, which is submitted in accordance with paragraph 12 of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999), covers the activities of the United Nations Monitoring, Inspection and Verification Commission (UNMOVIC) in the period from 1 March to 31 May 2000.

Appointments

2. The Secretary-General, by a letter dated 26 January 2000 (S/2000/60), recommended to the Security Council that Dr. Hans Blix of Sweden be appointed Executive Chairman of UNMOVIC. The President of the Security Council responded on 27 January (S/2000/61) that the members of the Security Council approved his appointment. The Secretary-General informed the President of the Security Council that he had appointed Dr. Blix effective 1 March 2000 (S/2000/90). He also informed the President that he had begun consultations on the appointment of Commissioners for UNMOVIC as called for in paragraph 5 of resolution 1284 (1999).

3. On 6 March 2000, the Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, Jayantha Dhanapala, acting on behalf of the Secretary-General, wrote to members of the Security Council to consult on the list of Commissioners proposed by the Secretary-General, following the latter's consultation with the Executive Chairman of UNMOVIC.

4. On 10 March 2000, the Secretary-General wrote to the President of the Security Council (S/2000/207) announcing that he had appointed the following persons as Commissioners for UNMOVIC:

Adigun Ade Abiodun (Nigeria)
Reinhard Böhm (Germany)
Ronald Cleminson (Canada)
Cong Guang (China)
Thérèse Delpech (France)
Robert Einhorn (United States of America)
Yuriy V. Fedotov (Russian Federation)
Kostyantyn Gryshchenko (Ukraine)
Gunterio G. Heineken (Argentina)
Hannelore Hoppe (United Nations — Department for Disarmament Affairs)
Takanori Kazuhara (Japan)
Roque Monteleone-Neto (Brazil)
Annaswamy Narayana Prasad (India)
Marjatta Rautio (Finland)
Paul Schulte (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
Cheikh Sylla (Senegal)

5. The Secretary-General also indicated that Dr. Blix, in his capacity as Executive Chairman of UNMOVIC, would chair meetings of the UNMOVIC College of Commissioners.

Organizational Plan

6. In paragraph 6 of resolution 1284 (1999) the Security Council requested the Executive Chairman, within 45 days of his appointment, to submit to the Council, in consultation with and through the Secretary-General, for its approval an organizational plan for UNMOVIC. The plan was transmitted to the Council by the Secretary-General on 6 April 2000 (S/2000/292 and Corr.1).

7. The members of the Security Council met in informal session on 13 April 2000 to discuss the plan. Later that day, the President of the Security Council wrote to the Secretary-General (S/2000/311) informing him that the members of the Council had discussed and, on that basis, approved the organizational plan for UNMOVIC as being in keeping with paragraph 6 of resolution 1284 (1999).

College of Commissioners

8. In accordance with the organizational plan, which provided that Commissioners be kept informed of the work of UNMOVIC, the Executive Chairman has sent three letters (14 March, 19 April, 12 May) to the Commissioners. The first letter outlined some initial thinking of the Chairman as to the requirements for UNMOVIC and its organization. The latter two concerned preparations for the first meeting of the Commission.

9. The Executive Chairman called the first meeting of the Commissioners on 23 and 24 May 2000. In addition to the members of the College, the Chairman also invited the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Director General of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to designate representatives to attend the meeting of the Commissioners as observers. Jacques Baute, Team Leader of the IAEA-Iraq Action Team and Ruth Mohlenkamp, Head of the Policy and Review Branch, Verification Division, OPCW, attended the meeting.

10. On the basis of briefings by the Executive Chairman and other personnel on the activities of the last three months, the College of Commissioners discussed, commented on and made suggestions on the question of possible operational procedures for UNMOVIC, the recruitment and training of personnel and the Joint Unit for Export/Import Monitoring, including the revision of the lists to which the mechanism applies. Briefings were also offered by the IAEA observer on the activities of the Agency under Security Council resolution 1284 (1999). A briefing was given as well by one of the members of the College of Commissioners on the role of overhead imagery. The Commissioners also examined informal guidelines which will be followed in the work of the College.

11. In accordance with paragraph 5 of resolution 1284 (1999), the UNMOVIC College of Commissioners was consulted on the contents of the present report. The College set 23 and 24 August 2000 as the dates for its next meeting.

Recruitment of personnel

12. In anticipation of the approval of the organizational plan of UNMOVIC, the Executive Chairman had written a letter on 13 March 2000 to all Member States and the Permanent Observer of Switzerland seeking assistance in identifying potentially interested candidates in the specialties of relevance to UNMOVIC. The response has been encouraging. In addition many individuals also offered their candidacies for consideration.

13. The Executive Chairman is currently engaged in interviewing potential staff members for UNMOVIC. At this stage, as noted in paragraph 8 of the organizational plan, the Executive Chairman intends to adopt a step-wise approach to recruitment, with the initial emphasis on the core staff needed in New York.

14 Appointments have recently been offered to a number of candidates for senior positions and further offers for core staff will be made in the following months.

Premises

15. In the organizational plan (S/2000/292 and Corr.1), approved by the Security Council on 13 April, the Executive Chairman mentioned that discussions were under way for the establishment of a field office in Bahrain for the use of UNMOVIC and IAEA. Those discussions have continued and a draft agreement on behalf of the United Nations and IAEA has been presented to the Government of Bahrain for a field office in Al-Muharraq, for an initial six-month period.

16. At UNMOVIC headquarters in New York, the limited office space available remains a problem and, if continued, will adversely affect the working environment and proper implementation of the tasks of the Commission. This issue has been raised with the Secretary-General and has resulted in the offer of limited office space in the DC-2 building of the United Nations Secretariat. It is planned to station the Commission's Joint Export/Import Unit in this new office space. However, these premises will not be sufficient by far to accommodate the full complement of UNMOVIC staff envisaged.

Ongoing activities

17. Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1051 (1996) of 27 March 1996, the Export/Import Joint Unit continues to receive notifications from States and international organizations of exports to Iraq of dual-use goods subject to the provisions of that resolution. Despite its obligations under that resolution, the Government of Iraq has not provided UNMOVIC with any notifications during the period under review. In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 8 of resolution 1284 (1999), the Commission and IAEA have reconstituted the Joint Unit at the headquarters of the Commission in New York and continued the revision and updating of the lists of items to which the export/import monitoring mechanism applies.

Training

18. In resolution 1284 (1999) the Security Council requested the Executive Chairman to arrange for the provision of high-quality technical and cultural training for UNMOVIC personnel. Accordingly a training programme has been drawn up to ensure that enough personnel are trained to establish, as soon as possible, a

sufficient pool of experts to be available for work related to inspection and monitoring in Iraq on behalf of the United Nations.

19. Under the curriculum circulated to the members of the College of Commissioners, UNMOVIC training is to include historical, legal, administrative and political issues related to weapons inspections and monitoring activities in Iraq, as well as the historical and cultural background of Iraq. Lessons from past inspection and monitoring activities are included. This planned training course will also cover general operational health and safety. Additionally, there will be discipline-specific (ballistic missiles, chemical weapons, biological weapons and export/import) training. The first UNMOVIC training course has been planned to run for some four weeks, starting in July 2000.